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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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OPA AND THE USDA. . . .Late yesterday, July 25, the President approved a measure to extend the Price Control and Stabilization Acts until June 30, 1947, in modified form. The measure brings USDA prominently into the picture. Some of the more significant provisions affecting the Department are: Ceilings are prohibited on agricultural commodities unless they were in existence before April 1, 1946. The Secretary of Agriculture must certify that agricultural commodities are in short supply as they become so and no ceilings will be permitted on commodities not in short supply. . . .By Dec. 31, 1946, the Secretary must recommend removal of ceilings on all agricultural commodities not important to business or living costs and the Price Administrator must carry out these recommendations. . . .The Secretary will not be under control of any appointive official or agency.

The measure prohibits ceilings on poultry or eggs or their food or feed products, or tobacco or its products, except that after Aug. 20, ceilings may be reestablished with approval of the Price Decontrol Board. . . .Prohibits prior to Aug. 21, 1946 ceilings on livestock, milk or their food or feed products, cotton-seed or soybeans or their food or feed products, grains under the Grain Standards Act or their feed products; requires the Board to hold hearings on whether these products shall be regulated and to decide the matter under certain conditions. . . .Authorizes the Board to decide whether subsidies shall be continued. (For other details of the measure see the attached copy of the President's message to Congress when he signed the bill.)

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . July 18, the House concurred in a Senate amendment to a bill extending the Sugar Act for one year (ready for the President). The Senate Finance Committee reported a measure to authorize alcohol plants to produce sugars and syrups until December 31, 1947, and to postpone disposal of certain alcohol and rubber plants. July 19, the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported a bill to authorize REA to finance certain TVA loans to cities. July 20, Representative Flannagan introduced a bill to specifically authorize OFAR functions; the President approved the government corporations appropriation bill (includes funds for CCC, FCIC, and FCA).

July 23, the House agreed to the conference report on the price-control extension measure; Representative White introduced a bill to provide for the protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases; the President approved a bill to provide for the stockpiling of strategic and critical materials; the President approved the third deficiency appropriation bill (includes funds for Swan Island quarantine station and the farm labor supply program). July 24, the Senate agreed to the conference report on the price-control extension measure (ready for the President); the President approved measures to prohibit 1947 cotton marketing quotas and to prohibit 1947 peanut marketing quotas.

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF COOPERATION. . . .Everyone interested in agricultural cooperation are invited to attend the 18th annual session of the American Institute of Cooperation to be held this year at Purdue University, August 26 to 30 inclusive. Chester C. Davis, Chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, is to speak on "Food for the World" at 7:30 p.m., August 26. A number of USDA officials have been asked to attend and take active parts in the session. Among them are Claude R. Wickard, REA Administrator; Orion Ulrey of BAE, H. M. Dixon of Extension, I. W. Duggan, Governor of FCA, and J. E. Well, S. D. Sanders, Harold Hedges, and J. D. Lawrence of FCA.

Nine forums and 45 group meetings are on schedule for the Institute covering various agricultural commodities and many phases of agricultural cooperative service. There are no fees for attendance at the meetings.

Stated objectives of the Institute are: "to stimulate research; to seek facts on cooperative activities, problems, and purposes; to bring together the best thinking of cooperative executives, educators, and leaders on the social, economic, and legal problems of cooperative; and to make available these facts and information to cooperatives and other organizations." An enlarged program with a full-time staff was started in 1945 with offices at 460 Drexel Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia 6, Pa. Raymond W. Miller is President of the AIC.

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HOME ON THE RANGE, a Department film originally released in 1944, was revised recently. It is an action pictured designed to show the range country busy at its job of growing much of our meat supply. It emphasizes improvements made through the government's range program. Among the attractions are a fast-action roundup and a branding scene. It is available for purchase only, in 16mm. or 35mm. prints (USDA's Motion Picture Service will supply the details on request). The running time is 10 minutes and it is a one-reel, black, and white, sound picture.

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THE FARM LABOR SITUATION. . . .An information sheet on farm labor is in the mill for distribution within a week or so. It brings facts and figures up to date as of July 15 and sets the stage for action in the fall labor program. This leaflet supplements the basic fact sheet on farm labor distributed this spring. The domestic farm labor supply continues to increase above expectations. In some cases foreign workers have had to be laid off. Further announcement will be made when the information sheet is available from OI.

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MORE MARKET NEWS OFFICES. . . .PMA recently opened a market news office for fruits and vegetables in Yakima, Wash. Soon after August 1, offices will be opened for dairy and poultry news at Detroit, Cincinnati, and Atlanta.

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CROP REPORT BIG: NEEDS ARE BIGGER. . . . The estimates for a record-breaking wheat and corn crop is a bright spot in the 1947-48 food prospects, but because of the huge gap between available world supplies and world needs, even spectacular improvements in domestic production does not lessen the urgent necessity for careful conservation of food. So, in spite of various press reports that restrictions on wheat may be lifted soon, it still holds good that present controls will continue, at least until the entire world situation can be realistically reviewed in September.

When Secretary Anderson outlined the 1946-47 wheat program on May 14 (Press Release 1056) he said: "The reports Mr. Hoover has made show clearly that there will be great need for continued heavy shipments of United States wheat during July and August. By September, when these shipments are made and we can see how world crops are coming in, we shall know a lot more about the whole situation." This statement is still the latest word on the subject.

Prospects on July 15 for 146 million bushels of corn and 42 million bushels of wheat more than was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board on July 1 are encouraging. But another general crop report as well as a special mid-month report will be available by September 1, and many facts will be considered before any changes are made in baking, milling, brewing, and distilling restrictions. For one thing the present wheat carry-over, estimated within a short range of 100 bushels, is far below the 281 million carry-over a year ago, or any recent average.

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AWARDS FOR HOMEMAKERS. . . . The National Garden Institute is offering trophy awards to the homemakers selected as the 1946 home food preservation champions in States who take part in the contests. Silver cups will be made available to State departments of agriculture that develop plans whereby all women wishing to enter the contests will have an opportunity to do so. The State departments must also determine eligibility requirements, standards of performance, and assume responsibility for selecting the winners.

Copies of the home food preservation poster, "Am I Proud," are still available on request from the Office of Information. This information should be passed on to all who may be interested.

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RADIO SCHEDULE, AUGUST 3. . . . AMERICAN FARMER, Pickup from Jackson's Mill, West Va., on 4-H Club work (14 min.); also "The Business Side of Farming," weekly USDA report for farmers.

NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, "Department of Agriculture Headlines," summary of news developments for farmers.

CONSUMER TIME, "The Soap Situation," a new kind of soap opera, why fats and oils are still scarce, and handy tips for making the best use of those we do get.

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SOME USDA RELEASES. . . . Fluid milk prices in city markets--1569; Peanut supplies--1572; 1947 Conservation program increases local responsibility--1562; Dr. Ralph E. Hodgson appointed assistant chief of BDI--1576;
1946 tobacco price support program--1579;
2,4-D precautions when used as a weed killer--1494;
Set aside requirements for 1946 Chum salmon pack ended--1581
1945 forest fires cost more than 5 million dollars--1582;
Public hearing on grain allocations to distillers to be held July 26 at USDA--1586;
USDA amends food import controls on eleven classes of foods--1583;
Indicated production of corn and wheat as of July 15, for important States and the U. S., special report by Crop Reporting Board--1587;
No limitation on purchases of 1946 flue-cured tobacco--1588;
Fitzgerald, Ga., tobacco market gets PMA inspection and market news service--1591;
U. S. public service hospitals exempt under fats and oils order, amend. 27 to WFO 42--1592;
CCC to pool 1945-crop loan cotton--1597;
USDA names desert grapefruit administrative committee--1602;
Civilians to get larger portion of rice supply--1603;
Use of wheat in mixed feed put on quarterly basis by amend. 13 to WFO 144--1614.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . War Assets Admin. establishes an Agricultural Branch in the Disposal Policy Div. of the Office of Plans and Policies--WAA-424; CPA fact sheet on preference ratings--what controls are in effect and how they operate--CPA-ID-159; CPA regulations on production and distribution of cotton fabrics to be studied by six cotton industry consultants given status of government officials for the purpose. Production and distribution of an adequate supply of basic apparel items and essential industrial and agricultural fabrics will be studied.

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A TIMELY USDA FILM available from cooperating State film libraries in 16mm. prints is "SAVING THE GARDEN CROP." A family plants a victory garden and finds at harvest time an abundance of vegetables that should be stored for winter. The film then demonstrates the best method of storing onions, beans, peas, apples, beets, carrots, salsify, squash, pumpkins, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, turnips, parsnips, and cabbage. This is a one-reel, black and white, sound film which runs for 13 minutes.

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"AT THE CROSSROADS" is the title of the 7th Report of OWMR. Some subjects covered are: Trends in Supply of Consumer Items, Production Prewar and Today, Unemployment Before the War and After, A Reconversion Setback--the Losses in Steel, and Food Exports, War and Postwar. Single copies of this report may be obtained from the Office of Information.

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STREAMLINING MARKET FACILITIES. . . . Even though record volumes of fresh fruit and vegetables were handled during the war years, operators and handlers managed to market the heavy tonnages under severe handicaps. Equipment, facilities, space arrangements and railway and truck line connections and services were inadequate, overtaxed, and out-of-date in many large marketing centers.

Civic organizations, trade groups, market specialists, and farmers' organizations now are considering ways and means of improving fresh food markets. Requests for advice and suggestions, and for working plans and specifications based on preliminary surveys by PMA, are being received weekly. In response to such requests, USDA specialists in warehouse engineering and design have helped plan improved marketing facilities in more than 25 cities. After making the suggested surveys, PMA's Marketing Facilities Branch cooperates with State and local authorities to determine the type and location of the new market set-up, the facilities needed, and the savings in money and time likely to result.

USDA surveys and recommendations have been made on request for markets under way at Jackson, Miss.; Hartford, Conn.; Dallas, Tex.; Miami, Fla.; Roanoke, Va.; Philadelphia, New York City, St. Louis, Mo.; Atlanta, Ga.; Peoria, Ill.; and Augusta, Ga. and Richmond, Va.

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AN AGRICULTURAL WORKER'S CREED. . . . W. A. Lloyd, long-time worker in the Extension Service and the Land-Grant College Association, who died recently, wrote for himself a creed which might well be adopted by every agricultural worker. A portion of it follows:

I believe in the farmer as the Nation's sure defense; the reservoir of its prosperity. . . . I believe in the farmer's right to a comfortable living in the country boy and girl; in their longings for opportunity; their right to trained minds, healthy bodies and clean hearts.

. . . with sincerity of purpose, I offer to work with country men, woman, and child in making the farm prosperous, the country home comfortable and beautiful; the rural community satisfying and my own life useful

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